Depression in key sector of Indian Industry

974. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are at least nine key sectors of Indian industry which remained depressed during the first half of the current financial year and that there is no prospect of improvement in their business in the coming months;

(b) if so, what are those sectors;

(c) whether it is also a fact that performance of all these sectors is largely dependent on Government's spending and most of them are operating in infrastructure areas;

(d) if so, what are the main reasons for their poor performance and for not hoping a revival; and

(e) what steps Government proposes to take to help these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) A comparison of the performance of 9 infrastructure sectors which is enclosed shows that the performance of all but three of the sectors, viz. telecommunications (phone connections), fertiliser and crude petroleum has been significantly higher during April—September, 1993 compared to April—September, 1992.

The Cabinet Committee on Industrial Infrastructure periodically reviews the performance of these infrastructure sectors and appropriate remedial measures are taken.

Statement

Infrastructure Performance during Apr.-Sep. 1993 and Apr-Sept 1992

S. No.	Sector	Unit	Performance during Apr—Sep 1992	Performance during Apr—Sep 1993	% Variation Apr—Sep 1993 / Apr-Sep 1992
1	Power	BU	144.32	156.69	8.6
2	Coal	MT	96.69	102.11	5.6
3	Saleable Steel	MT	5.30	5.64	6.5
4	Rly. Revenue Freight Traffic	MT	165.52	168.03	1.5
5	Cement	MT	26.33	27.87	5.9
6	Fertilizers (N+P)	MT	4.79	4.17	—12.9
7	Petroleum				
	(a) Crude Oil	MT	13.74	13.12	— 4.5
	(b) Refinery Throughput	MT	26.37	26.81	1.7
8	Cargo Handled at Major Ports	MT	79.97	83.80	4.8
9	Telecommunications (Monitored Sector)				
	(a) Net Switching Capacity	000' lines	49.69	83.08	67.2
	(b) Net Telephone Lines	000' lines	92.20	84.24	—8.6